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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of : Blattner, et al.

Serial No : 09/994,741

Examiner :

Filing Date : 11/28/2001

Art Unit : 3722

Title : BINDING PROCESS FOR MANUFACTURING BROCHURES

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

1. Pursuant to Applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97-98, the attention of the Examiner is directed to the information disclosed below.

The disclosure of this information is not an admission that any of it is prior art, and is not a representation that any search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b) exists.

Any modifications to the original form of any documents submitted in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, whether by underlining, interlineation, marginalia, or otherwise, should be disregarded, as the times, persons, and reasons involved in such modifications may have no relation to or bearing on the present application.

U.S. PATENTS

<u>Inventor</u>	<u>Patent No.</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
Martin	2,190,722	02-20-1940
Morisawa, et al.	5,525,117	06-11-1996

FOREIGN PATENTS/PUBLISHED APPLICATIONS

<u>Country/ Patent Office</u>	<u>Document No.</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>
DE	39 03 506 A1	10/26/1989

PUBLICATIONS

Abstract for DE 31 41 686 from Derwent World Patents Index (DIPF 1982-F7671E)

Abstract for DE 39 03 506 from Derwent World Patents Index (DIPF 1989-316935)

Abstract for DE 28 47 700 from esp@cenet (January 23, 2003)

Abstract for DE 31 41 686 from esp@cenet (January 22, 2003)

Abstract for DE 39 03 506 from esp@cenet (January 23, 2003)

Handbook of Print Media, H. KIPPHAN (ISBN 3-540-67326-1), Chapter 1, Fundamentals (Springer, 2001) (German edition published and introduced to the market during the book fair in Frankfurt/Main in October 2000)

Handbook of Print Media, H. KIPPHAN (ISBN 3-540-67326-1), Chapter 7, Print Finishing Processes (Springer, 2001) (German edition published and introduced to the market during the book fair in Frankfurt/Main in October 2000)

Handbook of Print Media, H. KIPPHAN (ISBN 3-540-67326-1), Chapter 9, Production Strategies for Print Media (Springer, 2001) (German edition published and introduced to the market during the book fair in Frankfurt/Main in October 2000)

CO-PENDING APPLICATIONS

<u>Publication Number</u>	<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Title</u>
2002/0085898	09/994743	11-28-2001	Apparatus and method for segmented bending of wire binding elements
2002/0106265	09/994742	11-28-2001	Binding apparatus and method

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OTHER INFORMATION

DE Search Report for DE 100 59 344.5 (priority application)

DE Search Report for DE 101 41 811.6 (priority application)

Translation of Attachment 2 to DE Search Reports (form P2253)

EP Search Report for EP 01122587.7 corresponding to DE 101 41 811.6

Translation of relevant portions of EP Search Report for 01122587.7

Translation of EP 01126528.7 (priority application)

Translation of DE 10059344.5 (priority application)

Translation of DE 10141811.6 (priority application)

Copies of the above-described documents (with the exception of any cited, unpublished co-pending applications) are being submitted herewith, accompanied by a duly completed form PTO/SB/08 and attachments, listing the documents.

The Examiner is requested to consider these documents, to make them of record in the present application by initialing in the spaces provided on the form PTO/SB/08 and attachments, and to return copies of the initialed form PTO/SB/08 and attachments to Applicant's representative in due course.

2. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this Statement is being filed (one must be checked):

- (a) _____ within 3 months of the filing date, or within 3 months of the date of entry into the National Stage, or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever occurs last [§ 1.97(b)];

or

- (b) _____ after the period set forth in § 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of either a final action under § 1.113 or a notice of allowance under § 1.311 [§ 1.97(c)]; therefore,

- (1) _____ a certification appears below, or

- (2) _____ the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee set forth in § 1.17(p) for consideration of this Statement to Deposit Account No. 50-1381;

or

(c) _____ after the mailing date of either a final action under § 1.113 or a notice of allowance under § 1.311, but before payment of the issue fee [§ 1.97(d)]; therefore,

(1) a certification appears below,

(2) petition hereby is made requesting consideration of this Statement, and

(3) the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i)(1) to Deposit Account No. 50-1381.

3. Certification (if applicable):


(a) _____ The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Statement.

(b) _____ The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the undersigned's knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Statement.

4. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayment, associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-1381.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding the foregoing, the undersigned may be contacted at the telephone number and extension listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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